



## ***IN PROGRESS ONLINE***

Office of Economic Development, Placer County, California

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### **Small Manufacturers Upbeat, Satisfied with County Programs**

Small manufacturing companies in Placer County are upbeat about the future. More than 85 percent expect conditions for their industry to improve, or stay the same over the next year. Forty percent anticipate solid growth for their companies, and another 45 percent do not foresee any change. These are among the key findings from a survey conducted earlier this year for the Placer County Office of Economic Development. The survey was done by the Sacramento Regional Research Institute, a joint venture of Sacramento State University and the Sacramento Area Commerce and Trade Organization. Earlier this year, the institute surveyed 95 Placer County manufacturers with no more than 49 employees. About 21 percent of the companies have used one or more business-assistance services offered by Placer County, and most of those described their experiences as positive.

"I'm very pleased with the results," said Bill Santucci, Chairman, Placer County Board of Supervisors. "They demonstrate that Placer County is a great place to do business, and will help the county target its programs to provide assistance where it is most needed."

The Office of Economic Development offers permit, site-search, and financing assistance. Through the Business Advantage Network, a coalition of local government and nonprofit agencies, the OED helps businesses recruit new employees, post job openings, screen applicants, and set up customized training programs.

The survey was funded with part of an \$82,000 grant the Office of Economic Development received from the Golden Sierra Job Training Agency and Golden Sierra Workforce Investment Board. The grant helps fund programs that assist laid-off workers and small businesses in danger of closing.

*For more information, visit the Sacramento Business Journal at*

<http://sacramento.bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2006/07/03/daily16.html>.

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## ***Film Review***

### **County Film Office Co-Hosts Film & Fire Safety Course**

To explain how Hollywood manages its big explosions in buildings or cars, and creates those realistic shoot-outs -- all accomplished safely -- the State Fire Marshall's Office, co-hosted by PLTFO, recently held a three-day film and fire safety course. Firefighters and film commissioners from throughout central Northern California and eastern Nevada attended the course. Graduates became credentialed Film Safety Officers in their jurisdictions. The course finale was a live presentation of pyrotechnic devices -- from small "squibs" simulating bullet hits to very large gasoline-powered explosions. For more, call Placer Lake Tahoe Film Office at (530) 889-4091 or visit [www.placer.ca.gov/films](http://www.placer.ca.gov/films).

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### **Placer County Co-Sponsors Federal Technology "Super Seminar"**

The Federal Technology Center's free "Super Seminar," sponsored in part by Placer County, will be held August 15, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m., in Rocklin. Subtitled "Getting to Know Your Local Contracting Resources," the seminar will include presentations on how to sell products and services to Federal, State of California, Placer County, and City agencies, and provide opportunities to network with purchasing reps from the various government agencies. It will cover the free local resources available to help businesses prosper.

Presenters include California Department of General Services, California Department of Transportation, City of Rocklin Community Development Dept, Placer County, the Federal Technology Center, and Sierra College Small Business Development Center. Discussing federal and local government contracting will be panels from Beale Air Force Base, U.S. Dept. of Forestry, and U.S. Small Business Administration; and the cities of Lincoln, Rocklin, and Roseville. Hosted by the City of Rocklin at Sunset Center, 2650 Sunset Blvd. Rocklin. Seating is limited. To register, call (916) 334-9388 or visit [http://www.theftc.org/news&events/upcomingevents/courses/placer\\_county\\_superseminar.htm](http://www.theftc.org/news&events/upcomingevents/courses/placer_county_superseminar.htm).

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### **The Business Advantage Network Works for Placer County Businesses**

The Business Advantage Network assists Placer County businesses with recruiting and training needs. One of its many no-cost services includes posting jobs on the CalJOBS Internet site. This site is operated and maintained by the Employment Development Department to assist businesses and job seekers throughout California. Once a job opening has been posted, the business may access the resume database to search for qualified applicants. Starting July 1, the Business Advantage Network is offering a toll-free number to businesses throughout the state. Businesses may use this number to reach their local business services office to post a job opening, or to access other no-cost recruiting services such as job fairs, interview space, and monthly recruiting events. For more information, call 1-877-920-JOBS (5627). For more information on CalJOBS, visit [www.caljobs.ca.gov](http://www.caljobs.ca.gov).

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### **Mt. Vernon Winery Wins Double-Gold at East Coast Wine Competition**

Jim Taylor, owner of Mt. Vernon Winery in Auburn, was awarded six out of six medals for Mt. Vernon wine entries at the recent Sixth Annual Finger Lakes International Wine Competition, held in Rochester, New York. Taylor was especially proud of a “double-gold” medal in the Syrah category for his winery’s 2003 Petite Clarksburg Salmon Farms Petite Syrah. “We were proud to show that Placer County grapes can compete with the big boys in Napa, Sonoma, and now the East Coast,” Taylor said.

Mt. Vernon competed against wineries in 37 states and 13 other countries. Established in 1996, Mt. Vernon opened its tasting room in July 2002. The family-owned winery, located on 31-acres outside Auburn, produced its first vintage in 1999. Mt. Vernon Winery is one of 14 members of the Placer County Wine & Grape Association (PCWGA). For more, contact Mt. Vernon Winery at (530) 823-1111 or [www.mtvernonwinery.com](http://www.mtvernonwinery.com) or PCWGA at <http://www.placerwineandgrape.org/>.

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### **Recent Area Tech Job Growth Highest in State**

An American Electronics Association study released in June found that in 2004 Sacramento’s technology employment grew faster than any other major city’s in California. The report said that the Sacramento area had 42,182 technology workers at the end of 2004, three percent more than in 2003. This year, Sacramento Area Regional Technology Alliance (SARTA), which produces a quarterly gauge measuring the region’s technology health, says the tech numbers are considerably stronger than in 2004, and that the trend is moving upward.

Of the 50 leading tech companies on SARTA’s Tech Index, 10 are located in Placer County. And on SARTA’s list of smaller, innovative “Companies to Watch,” are Applied Data Management (ADM), in Roseville, and Bizflex, in Auburn. ADM streamlines businesses’ IT systems to maximize productivity and reduce costs. Launched in 2004, Bizflex provides business management software to small businesses, automating their operations with Internet-powered solutions to help them grow.

### **What's in Your E-Mail Newsletter?**

In Progress Online (IPOL), our monthly economic development e-mail newsletter covers the latest news on Placer County business and industry. It reports on new projects in our cities and towns and keeps readers up to date on the state of the region's economy. IPOL posts news of state and local training, incentives, as well as loan programs that benefit business. It even provides links to more information on each item and news about your business is always welcome. Please send items, questions, comments or suggestions to the Office of Economic Development ([OED](#)) or visit the OED [Web](#) site. For past In Progress Online newsletters, go to Placer County [Biz News](#).

### ***Calendar of Events***

This calendar is a small sampling of the many events taking place throughout Placer County. Check with our office or a local newspaper for additional listings. We make every effort to insure that information is correct, but last-minute changes can occur. PLEASE CALL AHEAD TO VERIFY TIMES, DATES, AND LOCATIONS. To receive our next quarterly Calendar of Events, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to California Welcome Center, 13411 Lincoln Way, Auburn, CA 95603

**Foothills Farmers Markets**

At 16 locations around the county. For addresses and times, call (530) 887-2111 or visit <http://www.foothillfarmersmarket.com/>

**July**

**July 20 - August 12: Lake Tahoe Music Festival.** Classical, orchestral, jazz, bluegrass, country, pop, and Broadway music presented in concerts at various beautiful outdoor North Tahoe settings. For a complete schedule and tickets, call (530) 583-3101 or visit [www.tahoemusic.org](http://www.tahoemusic.org).

**August**

**August 10: Auburn Art Walk,** a stroll through three dozen Downtown and Old Town Auburn venues showing the work of local and regional artists in a wide variety of media. Free admission, free shuttle, live entertainment. For details, call (530) 885-5670.

**August 17 - 19 & 24 - 26. Summer Theatre Academy at Del Oro presents “The Apple Tree,”** three light-hearted, one-act musicals about men, women, and a little thing called temptation. At Del Oro Performing Arts Theatre, Loomis. For details, call (916) 652-7243

**August 20: Jay Rolerz Band, Classic Rock,** a free concert at Royer Park in Roseville, starting at 6:30 p.m. Presented by Music in the Park, Performing Arts of Roseville. For details, call (916) 786-7380.

**August 27: Origins and Elements,** an original art production integrating dance, music, and installation art on a beautiful Sierra hike. The event includes more than 20 dancers, musicians, and artists. At Donner Summit. For details and tickets, call (530) 550-8464.

**September**

**September 15 – October 14: The Odd Couple.** A Magic Circle Theatre production. Playing Fri. & Sat, 8 p.m.; Sun., 2 p.m., Tower Theatre, 421 Vernon St., Roseville. For details and tickets, call (916) 782-1777.

**September 16: Auburn’s Black & White Ball 2006 – The Great Gatsby Gadabout.** Four “hot” bands perform on the streets of Downtown Auburn at a costume ball on the theme of the Jazz Age. For details, call (530) 885-5616 or visit [www.partyauburn.com/](http://www.partyauburn.com/)

**September 28 – October 1: 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Lake Tahoe Autumn Food & Wine Festival.** Four days of food, wine, music, culinary classes with celebrity chefs, gourmet marketplace, and a food and wine competition. Events held in Tahoe City, Squaw Valley, Carnelian Bay, Kings Beach, and Truckee. For details call (800) 824-6348.

**October**

**October 7: 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Loomis Eggplant Festival,** a family-oriented event including arts, crafts, pancake breakfast, contests, free entertainment, and a farmers market. For details, call (916) 652-7252 or visit [www.loomischamber.com/eggplant.asp](http://www.loomischamber.com/eggplant.asp).

**October 8: Placer Farm & Barn Tour,** featuring all things PlacerGROWN and the AGROart Competition. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Adults \$10, children & students free. At Western Placer County locations. For tickets and map, call (530) 885-5670 or visit [www.placerfarmandbarnfestival.com/](http://www.placerfarmandbarnfestival.com/)

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